New Technologies in Fibre Optics

1261. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representations that the technology finalised by Hindustan Cables Limited for import from Denmark for indigenous manufacture of Fibre Optics Cables produces cables at a very expensive cost; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to ensure that HCL renegotiates import of latest art technology which has been now developed in the U.K. as the most cost-effective technology in the world and since offered to India at a lower cost?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) Hindustan Cables Ltd. (HCL) had invited global tenders for import of technolgy for manufacture of fibre optic cables. STC, UK, which had sent quotations against the above tender subsequently made representations claiming to have developed a cost effective technology, compared to that offered by the company in Denmark. The status of the technology offered by STC, UK has been got evaluated by a Government Expert, whose findings are that only one specification to meet the UK market requirement has been commercialised by STC. It does not meet the requirement of the Indian market. This technology is, therefor, not acceptable to HCL. As regards the cost effectiveness claim of the UK firm, it has been reported that it cannot be verified because no reliable figures are available internationally to compare the cost of one process with that of another process.

The technology chosen by Hindustan Cables Ltd. is the state-of-art technology and is commercially exploited process in use all over the world.

Production targets of Bharat Brakes and Valves Limited

1262. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any production targets for the years 1986-87, 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 have been planned by Bharat Brakes and Valves Limited a subsidiary of Burn Standard and Company;

(b) if so, whether the targets for 1986-87 and 1987-88 have been fulfilled and the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry is aware of the fact that target fixed by production committee of BBVL for the years 1987-88 for GOBRA Works could not be achieved due to non-availability of raw materials; if so, the reasons for non-supply of raw materials; and

(d) whether any steps have been taken to ensure uninterrupted supply of raw materials to the BBVL to achieve its production targets; and the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir; Details of production targets and achievement for the year 1986-87 and 1987-88 are as under:

(*Rs. Lakhs*)

Year	Production	
	Target	Actual
1986-87 . .	918	526
1987-88 . .	832	406

(c) Acute shortage of working capital due to continued losses over the years, resulting in shortage of raw material and other inputs was one of the reasons for not achieving the targetted production for 1987-88.